

BOOKS AND THEIR MAKERS

New Publications That Bid for Favor.

LONG LIST FOR THE FALL

H. C. Bunner's Legacy to His Admirers—Walter Wilcox's Rocky Mountain Sketches.

THE most beautiful and interesting book of last week's publications, and one of the most beautiful and attractive of several preceding weeks, and undoubtedly of many weeks to come, is a luxurious octavo from the Putnam press. Every device of the bookmaker's art is used to enliven the volume. The cover is a striking display of blue, black, white and gold. The paper is a joy to the touch and the print a luxury to the eye. The illustrations, however, are the appealing point, and an artistic album of elaborate dimensions and exquisite design. The external of the book must be spoken of first, because they are so sumptuous that they first command attention, without prejudice to the text.

The book is called "Camping in the Canadian Rockies," with the sub-title, "an account of camp life in the wilder parts of the Canadian Rocky Mountains, together with a description of the region about Banff, Lake Louise and Glacier, and a sketch of early explorations." It will be read with intense pleasure by Washingtonians, because the writer of the text and photographic artist of all the beautiful pictures is Mr. Walter Dwight Wilcox of this city. Returning to the pictures, with an examination of the text in view, we find twenty-five full page photographs, printed on extra heavy paper. Every one is an artistic gem. A glance through them is a trip in miniature through the most sublime scenes on this continent. There is nothing in nature comparable in rugged grandeur, primitive decoration and picturesque attractiveness with the Canadian Rockies, and Mr. Wilcox has been particularly happy in his selections of subjects. Scattered through the text are other vignette photographs of equal beauty and interest.

Mr. Wilcox's narrative is an interesting combination of information, description, anecdote, and adventure. It is hearty with interest and progresses with spirit from chapter to chapter. The book is the result of four years' camping experience in the regions which he describes. He made excursions into many of the wilder parts of the mountains and effected a considerable number of ascents. The extremely wild character of this part of the Rocky Mountains and the very short time when it was opened up to travelers are probably, the author thinks, in great part, the reasons for the lack of literature and the absence of any thoroughly illustrated publication concerning this region. It would seem that with the present volume any deficiency in either of these respects has been admirably supplied.

The town or village of Banff is the starting point of Mr. Wilcox's narrative, as it is the starting point of nearly all tours from the eastern side of the Canadian range to the wonders of the interior. The village is located just within the easternmost range, about one hundred and fifty miles north of the international boundary. It is the central or focal point of the Canadian National Park. There is so much of scenic interest and natural beauty in the surrounding mountains and valleys, that an area of some two hundred and sixty square miles has been reserved in this region by the government and built up in rocky roads and trails to points of special interest. Order is pre-

pared for satisfaction that there has not before been written the real life of Marion Philpott, after wards Madame Roland, after Marie Antoinette, one of the most interesting and conspicuous figures in the history of the French revolution. Ida M. Tarbell's biographical study of Madame Roland, recently published by the Scribners, fills this vacancy satisfactorily.

This detailed portrait, doubtless more truthful and accurate than former and more limited character studies, appears to be scrupulously honest, for in the context of mat-ri-va at hand it displays a keen and always rational judgment and delicate appreciation of motives and influences. The early life of Mme. Philpott is set forth with particular attention to sensitively intellectual awakening as displayed in the letters to her friend, Sophie Canelet, the dispassionate realistic maid of Amiens. But the fragility of her character is exposed in the blossoming of its sentimentalism, first shown in a reading of Rousseau's "Nouvelle Heloise," and nurtured by the many authors who passed before but left their reflection in her journal.

Her first associations with her future husband are of romantic interest. Mr. Roland was a practical and scientific man, a factor, he was economic and theoretic and wrote pamphlets. This interested Mme. Philpott. In the fall of the first year that he met Marion and before the romantic sentimental connection bound them, Roland left for a tour of Switzerland, Italy, Sicily and Malta. It was his plan to put his observations into letters to his future return to publish them. He needed some one to whom he could address the letters, who would guard the copy faithfully in his absence and would edit it intelligently if he should never return. He asked Marion that she might be sent to her and she was much flattered. Those letters worked her fate. A lovers' correspondence of much interest followed and it is set out at some length and for the first time in the present volume.

The account of the first effects of revolutionary sentiment on this famous woman and her husband is given with much interesting elaboration from letters and notes which have been carefully and diligently digested. The accounts of the Roland salon are particularly interesting and throw light on the evolution of the most critical period of days preceding the crimson outbreak. The position of the Rolands seemed not to have been well understood. By origin and caste they should have allied themselves with the conservatives, but they are prominent in many democratic movements, notably the deputat on from Lyons. The middle ground between aristocratic intelligence and republican anarchy seems to have been their footing. It is expressed in Madame Roland's memorable exclamation when driven to the guillotine: "Oh, liberty, liberty! What crimes are committed in thy name!"

The narrative of her subsequent days, the hours in the prison, the attack and her execution are told with studied fidelity, and a final chapter of interest is devoted to "The Left Behind." The details of making-up have been thoroughly attended to. There are numerous handsome illustrations, an explicit index and a valuable bibliography. The publishers have given the volume careful and artistic attention.

VERY little which the amiable and genial Mr. Bunner gave us in his lifetime surpassed the legacy which he left behind. Such indeed, may his "Jersey Street and Jersey Lane," recently published by the Scribners, be called. It is a posthumous publication, a tender and characteristic pastoral of the lanes and localities he loved so well. There are six of these "urban and suburban sketches," three of Jersey Street, three of Jersey Lane. "Jersey and Mulberry" is a character sketch of a plebeian New York neighborhood with an earnest plea for the organ grinder. "Tennyson's to Tubby Hook" describes familiar early haunts. "The Bowers and Boonies" tell their story in the name and "The Story of a Path" is a delightful pen sketch of a Jersey path. "The Lost Child" and "A Letter to Town" are suburban sketches. The book is put up with exquisite finish and the pages are illuminated with numerous sketches by Frost, Frazier, Chubbuck and Niles.

Mr. Bunner's definition of a Bohemian is amusingly truthful: "He is the only kind of gentleman permanently in ten-

mentary difficulties who is neither a sponge nor a cheat. He is a man who lacks certain elements necessary to success in this world and who manages to keep fairly even with the world by means of ingenious shift and expedient; never fully succeeding, never wholly failing. He is a man, in fact, who can't swim, but can tread water. But he never, never, never calls himself a Bohemian. Your true Bohemian always calls himself by some euphemistic name. He is always a gentleman at odds with fortune, who rolled in wealth yesterday and will tomorrow, but who at present is willing to do any work which he is sure will make him immortal, and that he thinks may get him the price of a supper."

THE Putnam have recently added to their long catalogue of chess publications a new work of current and permanent interest to all lovers of the game. It is a complete record of the famous Hastings chess tournament of 1895, prepared by Horace F. Chesshire. To the uninitiated the Hastings tournament is a name, but to the chess player it is an elaborate maze of matter which is only a little less intricate than Suvarov's, but the very meagreness of it will be joy for the chessman where the nothing wanting, apparently, that he could desire. There are twenty-two full-page portraits of the most famous players of the world, an account of the tournament's rise, progress and close, with copies in full of the games and a brief summary of the social proceedings. The compiler, in doing this, has diverged from the beaten path and has presented the whole matter in a narrative form in chronological order. He has also expanded many details commonly given and utilized the space for matter interesting to the votaries of chess. The games have been arranged in order of date, and also with a view to bringing out the notes at the same time as the score. The annotations are all by competitors and mostly by prize winners. The games were distributed so as to give a great variety of opinions on the openings and styles of play as possible, and so that no one should annotate his own game. The notes are pleasantly varied, from the ponderous to the cheery, from the historical to the technically analytical.

Marion Crawford's latest story is called "Taggart." What is the title of a new gastronomic monthly. Journalism is the subject of much study in current literature. A new volume, Emily Dickenson's poems are in press. Gertrude Warden's new novel is called "The Sentimental Sex." Mary J. Safford is the translator of Johann Ambrosius's poems. The contract for printing the Postal Guide is worth \$19,000 the year. England seems to have gone in for a veritable epidemic of memorials. Lord Rosebery made the address at the centenary celebration at Glasgow. Appleton's Town and Country Library has reached its two hundredth volume. A new order has just been placed for 1,000,000 more copies of Spurgeon's sermons. Alfred Austin, laureate, is to be orator at the unveiling of the Burns memorial at Irvine. A new Harold Frederic book is "March Hares," written in England as "George Firth." Du Maurier's latest story, "The Martians," is said to resemble "Peter Rabbit" rather than "Tilly." Prof. George B. Adams of Yale is the author of a new book entitled, "The Growth of the French Nation." One of the most expensive books in the world is the copy of the Psalter recently sold in London for \$25,000. "Comp's 'Le Pater,' which made such a stir in Paris a few years ago, has been edited for a French text-book. Mrs. W. K. Clifford's new volume of short stories will be issued presently in a form which is somewhat of a novelty in England and America. In shape, size and general get-up it will closely resemble the ordinary yellow paper covered French novel. It will cost \$1,000 to remove Kate Field's body from Hawaii to the burial place of John Brown in the Adirondacks. Charles Tennyson, a brother of the late Alfred, poet laureate, married a sister of his brother's recently deceased wife. Edna Lyall has finished her "Autobiography of a Truth," which sounds like a confession to her "Autobiography of a Slander." John Morley's life of Richard Cobden is to be published within the next ninety days. It is heralded as a work of unusual importance. If quantity makes up for quality then Irma Fedosova, a Russian, is the greatest writer in the world. She is the author of ten thousand poems. Justin McCarthy is at work on the third volume of his "History of Our Own Times," which will take up the thread at 1880 and bring it down to date. Barrie's "Margaret Ogilvy" is, in the opinion of the London Bookman, "the most beautiful and exquisite piece of work he has yet accomplished." In referring to Burns' habit of tipping, Lord Rosebery, in his memorial oration, apologized for it as the vice of the century, especially among literary men. Charles Reade still retains his hold on the English-reading public. His "Cloister and the Hearth," for which Sir Walter Besant expressed his admiration, continues to have a wide sale. Norway's literary lights are turning back on the land of the midnight sun. Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the poet and politician, has gone to Germany to live, and there has already done so, having settled in Munich. Prof. Otis Tufton Mason, curator of the department of ethnology at the National Museum, is preparing a remarkable exhibit which will prove that the Indians of all who care for mediocrity and indifference. Every German reader includes selections from his poems. Muse, Bernhard is writing her memoirs, and although Signora Luse denied it there is ground for expecting something of the kind from the great actress, and Miss Ellen Terry has a very great deal to say that will not be less interesting to our people. It will be a goodly collection of reminiscences when all three are published. Beatrice Harraden, the author of "Slips That Pass in the Night," recently went to France from El Ca. Pass an invalid. She is in search of change of air from which she hopes to derive enough strength to go to her home in London. 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The inventory of Mrs. Stowe's estate, submitted when her will was offered for probate in Hartford, Conn., gives the total value at \$12,353.55, including a \$10,000 house, several blocks of railroad stock and \$8,750 due from a publishing firm. Her personal belongings are put down at \$1,000. The English copyrights and her Florida plantation are not put down as worth any definite sum.

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don, with reference to their possible use in a contemplated "Life and Letters of Mrs. Stowe." These letters will be carefully returned to their owners after copies have been made of such as are found to be available.

Dr. S. Weir Mitchell's novel of American life and character, entitled "Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker," will begin as a serial in the November issue of the Century. The scene is laid in Philadelphia before and during the Revolutionary War and nearly all the characters are historically prominent.

Dean Farrar's new book, "The Bible: What It Is, and What It Is Not," is now going through the press, but no date can yet be fixed for its publication. The work has been a long time in writing, and is expected to prove a very important contribution to the discussion of the Scriptures.

The recent international conference at London to discuss the preparation of a world's catalogue of Scientific Papers made Dr. Simon Newcomb, representative of the United States Government, vice president. English is to be the language of the work.

Kipling stopped over in Springfield while on his way to Brattleboro from Gloucester and was entertained at one of the clubs. He conversed fluently on the silver question, but "wouldn't talk shop a little bit," the Republican says. He impressed his hearers as having the "snap and sparkle of the best sort of newspaper writers."

Aubrey Beardsley, though his art has been much laughed at, is said to have made an income of \$20,000 a year since he appeared on the horizon, two or three years ago. He was born at Brighton of poor parents, who intended that he should be a musician, and his first pictures were shown when he was twelve years old.

A new edition of Uhlund has just been edited and published, with notes and bibliography. Uhlund was not the most inspired of German poets, but his ballads and romances have a warm, human quality, and of all who care for mediocrity and indifference. Every German reader includes selections from his poems.

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